

Serial No.: 10/737,421
Docket No.: A0720B

Examiner: T. Phan
Art Unit: 2841

REMARKS

Claims 1-14 are currently pending in this application. Claims 1 and 6 have been amended and new claims 9-14 have been added. Reconsideration and allowance of the above referenced patent application in view of the amendments made above and the remarks to follow is respectfully requested.

Claims 1 and 6 have been amended to recite the feature that the removable second printed circuit board receives and processes information related to a sensed condition. Claims 9 and 10 have been added to provide various examples of the sensed condition that can be received by the second printed circuit board. Support for these amendments can be found in the specification, for example at page 6, line 29 through page 7, line 5. New independent claim 11 recites the additional feature of a controller that interfaces with both the first printed circuit board and the second printed circuit board. Support for this amendment can be found in the specification, for example at page 6, lines 20-28 and page 7, lines 22-31. Additional support for this amendment can be found throughout U.S. patent application serial No. 10/441,417, which, as indicated at page 7, lines 7-9 of the present application is incorporated by reference in its entirety into the present application. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the disclosures of both the present application and the '417 application make it clear that the present invention discloses a single (or distributed) controller that electronically interfaces with both circuit boards. New independent claim 12 recites the additional feature that the second printed circuit board is electrically connected to and interfaces with the first printed circuit board. Support for this amendment can be found in the specification, for example at page 8, lines 25-27. No new matter is believed to have been added by virtue of these amendments.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Ellner in view of Schwartz.

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The Examiner asserts that Ellner describes all of the elements of the claimed invention except for the claimed first printed circuit board and a compartment dimensioned for receiving a battery, and concludes that it would have been obvious to combine the teachings of Ellner and Schwartz for the purpose of facilitating power to a circuit arrangement within a compact space.

Ellner describes a watch having a hidden compartment that can hold a message-generating item, such as a psychological, therapeutic message, olfactory message, or auditory message. It is asserted that a digital and/or auditory message would comprise a circuit board in order to perform digital and/or electronic functions.

Without conceding the correctness of the rejections, Applicants respectfully submit that Ellner does not describe or suggest all of the elements of the invention as now claimed. Specifically, Applicants have amended claims 1 and 6 to recite a second printed circuit board that receives and processes information related to a sensed condition. As Ellner is directed to a device that primarily encourages a user by a hidden inspirational message and provides various means for inputting and displaying such an inspirational message, there is no teaching or suggestion that Ellner can display information relating to a sensed condition (admittedly, Ellner describes other embodiments (i.e., see column 6, lines 31-62) but which are still respectfully submitted to be very different from that which is being claimed herein).

The Schwartz patent has been cited for its description of an asymmetrically positioned battery, and no indication has been (or, respectfully submitted, can be) made that this document cures any of the deficiencies noted above.

Accordingly, because neither of the cited documents describe or suggest a removable and replaceable second printed circuit board that receives and processes information relating to a sensed condition, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-10 are

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not rendered obvious in view of the cited art, and thus reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

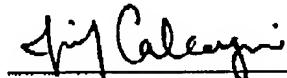
New claims 11-14 are also believed to distinguish over the prior art of record. As discussed above, new independent claim 11 recites the additional feature of a controller that interfaces with both the first printed circuit board and the second printed circuit board, and new independent claim 12 recites the additional feature that the second printed circuit board is electrically connected to and interfaces with the first printed circuit board. That is, even if Ellner describes two circuit boards to perform digital and/or electronic functions, there is no description or suggestion of (i) a controller that electronically interfaces with both circuit boards (i.e. claim 11) or (ii) an electrical connection between both boards (i.e. claim 12).

CONCLUSION

Applicant has made a sincere and diligent effort to place this application in condition for immediate allowance and notice to this effect is earnestly solicited. However, if any issues still remain, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned to resolve such issues and/or enter this Amendment in the application file in order to place this application in better condition for appeal.

Early and favorable action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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